



Office of Community Services

Low Income Household Water Assistance Program | LIHWAP

How Federal Aid for High Water Costs Helps Struggling Families

Stats for FY2022

WASHINGTON, DC A Snapshot

Total funding received: **\$2,424,989**

Funding expended: **\$2,424,989**

Months providing benefits in FY22: **8**



How has LIHWAP impacted households in need in Washington, DC?

Disconnections
prevented:

1,000

Water bill reductions:

3,353

Participating Water
Service Providers:

100%

Average LIHWAP
benefit:

\$543.80

THE COST OF WATER IN WASHINGTON, DC

Nationally, water is the fastest growing household utility service. As a result, many Americans in Washington, DC are struggling to pay their water and wastewater bills.

Median water and
wastewater rate in 2022

\$281.44

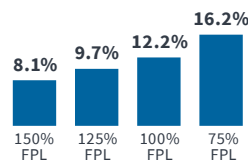
Rate includes water + sewer
per month¹

Income-eligible
individuals

134,884

Total individuals under
150% FPL²

Percent of income spent on water/
wastewater by poverty rate³



FPL: Federal Poverty Level⁴

What is the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program?

LIHWAP is the first-ever federal water assistance program to help meet unmet water needs across the country by helping low-income households pay for their water and wastewater bills.

Who in Washington, DC benefits from the program?

LIHWAP benefits households with the lowest incomes, and who pay a high proportion of income for drinking water or are facing water disconnection. This includes:

Washington, DC
households benefited

3,353

Households with
an older adult

93

Households with a
disabled person

66

Households with a
child under five

1,172



www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/programs/lihwap | waterhelp.info

¹Water and sewer data from Duke University Nicholas Institute for Energy, Environment and Sustainability (2022). Represents large and very large utilities at usage rate of 10,000 gallons/month for inside customers

²Calculated from ACS 2021 1-year estimates, individuals with income below 150% poverty level

³Poverty rate: US Census Bureau American Community Survey

⁴FPL: US Dept of Health and Human Services